IN THE CLAIMS

For the convenience of the Examiner, all pending claims of the present Application are shown below in numerical order whether or not an amendment has been made and applying the revised amendment practice of 37 CFR 1.121 – IFW Final Rule.

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Previously Presented) A method for allocating a plurality of call resources during a conference call, the method comprising:

conducting a conference call between three or more clients using a first call resource;

identifying a second call resource available to conduct the conference call; and

transferring the conference call from the first call resource to the second call resource without suspending communication of a plurality of mixed media streams received by the clients.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein transferring comprises:

generating a first mixed media stream at the first call resource and a second mixed media stream at the second call resource;

modifying synchronization information in the second mixed media stream to match synchronization information in the first mixed media stream;

terminating the first mixed media stream to end communication with the first call resource upon confirming that the modified second mixed media stream is valid; and

communicating the modified second mixed media stream to the clients.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 2, further comprising introducing a delay in a selected one of the first mixed media stream and the second mixed media stream to synchronize the first mixed media stream and the second mixed media stream.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 2, wherein modifying synchronization information comprises:

instructing the second call resource to adjust synchronization information in the second mixed media stream; and

receiving the second mixed media stream with the adjusted synchronization information.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 2, wherein synchronization information comprises at least a selected one of a timestamp and a sequence number.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 2, wherein:

the first mixed media stream comprises a first sequence of real-time transport protocol (RTP) packets;

the second mixed media stream comprises a second sequence of RTP packets; and

the modified second mixed media stream is valid when the second sequence of RTP packets matches the first sequence of RTP packets.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the clients are unaware of the transfer of the conference call from the first call resource to the second call resource.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein:

conducting the conference call comprises:

communicating, to the first call resource, a first media stream generated by one of the clients participating in the conference call; and

communicating, to the one of the clients, a first mixed media stream received from the first call resource; and

transferring the conference call comprises:

duplicating the first media stream to create a second media stream;

communicating the second media stream to the second call resource;

receiving a second mixed media stream from the second call resource;

terminating the first mixed media stream to end communication with the first call resource upon confirming that a modified second mixed media stream is valid; and

communicating the modified second mixed media stream to the one of the clients.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 8, further comprising:

instructing the second call resource to adjust synchronization information in the second mixed media stream; and

receiving the second mixed media stream with the adjusted synchronization information.

10. (Previously Presented) A communication system, comprising:

three or more clients operable to couple to a packet-based network, the clients further operable to initiate or join a conference call;

a first call resource operable to couple to the packet-based network;

a second call resource operable to couple to the packet-based network at a different physical location than the first call resource; and

a media gateway operable to couple to the packet-based network, the media gateway further operable to transfer the conference call from the first call resource to the second call resource without suspending communication of a plurality of mixed media streams received by the clients.

11. (Original) The communication system of Claim 10, wherein:

the first call resource is further operable to generate a first mixed media stream;

the second call resource is further operable to generate a second mixed media stream; and

the media gateway is further operable to:

modify synchronization information in the second mixed media stream to match synchronization information in the first mixed media stream;

terminate the first mixed media stream to end communication with the first call resource upon confirming that the modified second mixed media stream is valid; and

communicate the modified second mixed media stream to the clients.

12. (Original) The communication system of Claim 11, wherein the media gateway is further operable to introduce a delay in a selected one of the first mixed media stream and the second mixed media stream to synchronize the first mixed media stream and the second mixed media stream.

13. (Original) The communication system of Claim 11, wherein the media gateway modifies synchronization information by:

instructing the second call resource to adjust synchronization information in the second mixed media stream; and

receiving the second mixed media stream with the adjusted synchronization information.

14. (Original) The communication system of Claim 11, wherein the synchronization information comprises at least a selected one of a timestamp and a sequence number.

15. (Original) The communication system of Claim 11, wherein

the first mixed media stream comprises a first sequence of real-time transport protocol (RTP) packets;

the second mixed media stream comprises a second sequence of RTP packets; and

the modified second mixed media stream is valid when the second sequence of RTP packets matches the first sequence of RTP packets.

16. (Original) The communication system of Claim 10, wherein the clients are unaware of the transfer of the conference call from the first call resource to the second call resource.

17. (Previously Presented) The communication system of Claim 10, wherein:

one of the clients participating in the conference call is operable to communicate a first media stream to the first call resource;

the first call resource is further operable to communicate a first mixed media stream to the one of the clients; and

the media gateway is further operable to:

duplicate the first media stream to create a second media stream;

communicate the second media stream to the second call resource;

receive a second mixed media stream from the second call resource;

terminate the first mixed media stream to end communication with the first call resource upon confirming that a modified second mixed media stream is valid; and

communicate the modified second mixed media stream to the one of the clients.

18. (Original) The communication system of Claim 17, wherein the media gateway is further operable to:

instruct the second call resource to adjust synchronization information in the second mixed media stream; and

receive the second mixed media stream with the adjusted synchronization information.

19. (Original) The communication system of Claim 10, wherein the plurality of clients are selected from a group consisting essentially of a conventional telephone coupled to the packet-based network via a gateway, a wireless phone coupled to the packet-based network via the gateway, an Internet Protocol (IP) phone or a computer including a voice teleconferencing application.

20. (Original) The communication system of Claim 10, wherein the packet-based network comprises an Internet Protocol (IP) network.

21. (Previously Presented) A media gateway, comprising:

an interface operable to couple to a communication network, the interface further operable to receive media streams communicated by three or more clients participating in a conference call; and

a processing module coupled to the interface, the processing module operable to transfer the conference call from a first call resource to a second call resource without suspending communication of a plurality of mixed media streams received by the clients.

22. (Original) The media gateway of Claim 21, wherein the processing module is further operable to:

receive a first mixed media stream generated by the first call resource and a second mixed media stream generated by the second call resource;

modify synchronization information in the second mixed media stream to match synchronization information in the first mixed media stream;

terminate the first mixed media stream to end communication with the first call resource upon confirming that the modified second mixed media stream is valid; and

communicate the modified second mixed media stream to the clients.

23. (Original) The media gateway of Claim 22, wherein the processing module is further operable to introduce a delay in a selected one of the first mixed media stream and the second mixed media stream to synchronize the first mixed media stream and the second mixed media stream.

24. (Original) The media gateway of Claim 22, wherein the processing module modifies synchronization information by:

instructing the second call resource to adjust synchronization information in the second mixed media stream; and

receiving the second mixed media stream with the adjusted synchronization information.

25. (Original) The media gateway of Claim 22, wherein the synchronization information comprises at least a selected one of a timestamp and a sequence number.

26. (Original) The media gateway of Claim 22, wherein:

the first mixed media stream comprises a first sequence of real-time transport protocol (RTP) packets;

the second mixed media stream comprises a second sequence of RTP packets; and

the modified second mixed media stream is valid when the second sequence of RTP packets matches the first sequence of RTP packets.

27. (Original) The media gateway of Claim 21, wherein the clients are unaware of the transfer of the conference call from the first call resource to the second call resource.

28. (Previously Presented) The media gateway of Claim 21, wherein the processing module is further operable to:

communicate a first media stream generated by one of the clients participating in the conference call to the first call resource;

communicate a first mixed media stream received from the first call resource to the one of the clients;

duplicate the first media stream to create a second media stream;

communicate the second media stream to the second call resource;

receive a second mixed media stream from the second call resource;

terminate the first mixed media stream to end communication with the first call resource upon confirming that a modified second mixed media stream is valid; and

communicate the modified second mixed media stream to the one of the clients.

29. (Original) The media gateway of Claim 28, wherein the processing module is further operable to:

instruct the second call resource to adjust synchronization information in the second mixed media stream; and

receive the second mixed media stream with the adjusted synchronization information.

30. (Currently Amended) Logic encoded in media for allocating a plurality of call resources during a conference call and operable to perform the following steps:

conducting a conference call between ~~a plurality of~~ three or more clients using a first call resource;

identifying a second call resource available to conduct the conference call; and

transferring the conference call from the first call resource to the second call resource without suspending communication of a plurality of mixed media streams received by the clients.

31. (Original) The logic encoded in media of Claim 30, wherein transferring comprises:

generating a first mixed media stream at the first call resource and a second mixed media stream at the second call resource;

modifying synchronization information in the second mixed media stream to match synchronization information in the first mixed media stream;

terminating the first mixed media stream to end communication with the first call resource upon confirming that the modified second mixed media stream is valid; and

communicating the modified second mixed media stream to the clients.

32. (Original) The logic encoded in media of Claim 31, further comprising introducing a delay in a selected one of the first mixed media stream and the second mixed media stream to synchronize the first mixed media stream and the second mixed media stream.

33. (Original) The logic encoded in media of Claim 31, wherein modifying synchronization information comprises:

instructing the second call resource to adjust synchronization information in the second mixed media stream; and

receiving the second mixed media stream with the adjusted synchronization information.

34. (Original) The logic encoded in media of Claim 31, wherein synchronization information comprises at least a selected one of a timestamp and a sequence number.

35. (Original) The logic encoded in media of Claim 31, wherein:

the first mixed media stream comprises a first sequence of real-time transport protocol (RTP) packets;

the second mixed media stream comprises a second sequence of RTP packets; and

the modified second mixed media stream is valid when the second sequence of RTP packets matches the first sequence of RTP packets.

36. (Original) The logic encoded in media of Claim 30, wherein the clients are unaware of the transfer of the conference call from the first call resource to the second call resource.

37. (Previously Presented) The logic encoded in media of Claim 30, wherein:

conducting the conference call comprises:

communicating, to the first call resource, a first media stream generated by one of the clients participating in the conference call; and

communicating, to the one of the clients, a first mixed media stream received from the first call resource; and

transferring the conference call comprises:

duplicating the first media stream to create a second media stream;

communicating the second media stream to the second call resource;

receiving a second mixed media stream from the second call resource;

terminating the first mixed media stream to end communication with the first call resource upon confirming that a modified second mixed media stream is valid; and

communicating the modified second mixed media stream to the clients.

38. (Original) The logic encoded in media of Claim 37, further comprising:

instructing the second call resource to adjust synchronization information in the second mixed media stream; and

receiving the second mixed media stream with the adjusted synchronization information.

39. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for allocating a plurality of call resources during a conference call, comprising:

means for conducting a conference call between ~~a plurality of~~ three or more clients using a first call resource;

means for identifying a second call resource available to conduct the conference call; and

means for transferring the conference call from the first call resource to the second call resource without suspending communication of a plurality of mixed media streams received by the clients.

40. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 39, further comprising:

means for generating a first mixed media stream at the first call resource and a second mixed media stream at the second call resource;

means for modifying synchronization information in the second mixed media stream to match synchronization information in the first mixed media stream;

means for terminating the first mixed media stream to end communication with the first call resource upon confirming that the modified second mixed media stream is valid; and

means for communicating the modified second mixed media stream to the clients.